

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-26 (cancelled)

27. (currently amended) ~~In a catheter~~ A catheter comprising a plurality of lumens, a proximal and a distal end, a proximal and a distal portion, a longitudinal axis extending from said proximal to said distal end, a handle at said proximal end, and a cutting device for performing a sphincterotomy at said distal portion, ~~the improvement comprising:~~

~~radially offsetting~~ wherein a lumen of said plurality of lumens is radially offset, said lumen contains ~~containing~~ a wire connecting said distal cutting device to said handle, a sphincterotomy is performed with said cutting device.

28. (currently amended) The catheter improvement of claim 27 wherein said distal portion may assume at least a right angle configuration.

29. (currently amended) The catheter improvement of claim 27 wherein said cutting device is a heated wire.

30. (previously presented) A medical device adaptable for performing a plurality of medical procedures comprising:

a catheter comprising a plurality of lumens, a proximal and a distal end, a proximal and a distal portion, a longitudinal axis extending from said proximal end to said distal end, wherein said catheter diameter decreases from said proximal end to said distal end;

a handle at said proximal end;

a cutting device at said distal portion; and

a device for object removal at said distal end.

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31. (previously presented)The medical device of claim 30 wherein said cutting device is a heated wire.

32. (previously presented)The medical device of claim 30 wherein said device for object removal is an expansible balloon and said proximal portion comprises:

at least one entry port for inflating said balloon connected to a lumen of said catheter and wherein said lumen ends at an exit port in said distal portion for inflating said balloon.

33. (previously presented)The medical device of claim 32 wherein said entry port includes a Luer-lock fitting.

34. (previously presented)The medical device of claim 30 wherein said cutting device comprises a cutting wire and a reinforcing sleeve.

35. (previously presented)The medical device of claim 30 wherein said cutting device comprises a cutting wire extending exterior to said catheter between longitudinally spaced skived ports.

36. (previously presented)The medical device of claim 30 wherein each lumen comprises: an entry port located in said proximal portion of said catheter and an exit port in said distal portion of said catheter.

37. (previously presented)A method for removing objects from the biliary tree using a duodenoscope introduced through the alimentary tract comprising:

positioning the distal end of a duodenoscope in a patient's duodenum adjacent to the sphincter of Oddi;

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inserting into said duodenoscope a catheter comprising a plurality of lumens, a proximal and a distal end, a proximal and a distal portion, a longitudinal axis extending from said proximal end to said distal end, a handle at said proximal end, a cutting device at said distal portion, and a device for object removal at said distal end, and wherein said catheter diameter decreases from said proximal end to said distal end; and

deploying said device for object removal in proximity to objects to be removed from the biliary tree.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein said device for object removal is an expandable balloon and wherein said step of deploying said device for object removal comprises:

deploying said expandable balloon distally of objects to be removed from the biliary tree.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 37 further comprising the step of positioning the catheter through fluoroscopy.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 39 wherein said step of positioning the catheter through fluoroscopy includes the step of:

injecting a contrast agent.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 further including the step of:
verifying the presence of objects to be removed using said contrast agent.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 37 further comprising the step of:
enlarging the sphincter of Oddi using said cutting device.

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43. (new) the method of claim 37, wherein a sphincterotomy is performed with said cutting device.

44. (new) The device of claim 30, wherein said cutting device is for performing a sphincterotomy.